

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Michel H. Malek

Title: SPINE STABILIZATION  
SYSTEMS

Appl. No.: 10/722,119

Filing Date: 11/25/2003

Examiner: David C. Comstock

Art Unit: 3733

Confirmation Number: 4839

**REPLY AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR. § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Comstock:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action, dated April 2, 2008, concerning the above-referenced patent application. Applicant notes that this response is being filed within two months of the mailing of a Final Office Action, and, thus, before the expiration of the advisory period. Applicant believes this response to be timely filed.

While Applicant believes that no fees are due with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

**Remarks** begin on page 3.